REMARKS

Claims 18 – 37 are currently pending in the present application. With this Response, Applicants cancel claims 19, 22, 31 and 35 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 18, 20, 21, 23 – 26, 30, 32 34 and 36. No new matter is added. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in Applicants' specification at page 14, line 3 – page 17, line 15.

OBJECTION TO SPECIFICATION

The specification is objected to as to informalities on pages 18 and 20. Applicants thank the Examiner for suggesting amendments to overcome the objection, and amend the specification accordingly. Applicants therefore request that the objection be withdrawn.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS

Claim 26 is objected to as to informalities. Applicants thank the Examiner for suggesting an amendment to overcome the objection, and amend claim 26 accordingly. Applicants therefore request that the objection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103

Claims 18 - 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,837,644 to Yunoki. Claims 26 - 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yunoki in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-208760 to Ishizawa. Applicants cancel claims 19, 22, 31 and 35 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 18, 20, 21, 23 – 26, 30, 32 34 and 36 to further clarify the nature of their

invention, and respectfully traverse these rejections. Applicants note that the limitations of canceled claims 19 and 22 are effectively included in amended claim 18, that the limitations of canceled claim 31 are effectively included in amended claim 30, and that the limitations of canceled claim 35 are effectively included in amended claim 34.

In independent claims 18, 30 and 34, Applicants respectively disclose a disk recording medium, a disk recording reproduction device and a method for performing reproduction of a disk, the method including the steps of: a) recording on a disk recording medium pulse data adapted to provide a reproduction device with a pulse sequence, and information adapted for verification of the pulse sequence and for specifying at least one of software and data, b) reading the information when the disk recording medium has been installed in the reproduction device, c) determining whether the information has been registered in the reproduction device, d) detecting the pulse sequence only when the information has not been registered, e) selectively controlling a rotation of the disk recording medium so that the pulse sequence and said information match, wherein the pulse sequence obtained from the pulse data corresponds to a rotational speed of said disk recording medium, f) determining whether the pulse sequence and the information match, g) registering the information in the reproduction device only when the pulse sequence and said information have matched, and h) deleting the pulse data on the disk recording medium when the information has been registered. In this manner, pulse data may be first played back at a predetermined and selectively controlled rotational speed in order to verify the legitimacy of the disk recording copy, and then erased after the copy is registered on the reproduction device for future playbacks. The combination of pulse data and selectively controlled playback speed provide a verification sequence that is much

harder to counterfeit than conventional data codes retrieved at a fixed, standard playback speed.

Yunoki discloses a magnetic recording/reproduction apparatus capable of sampling a magnetic pulse generated by rotating a disk (see, e.g., column 2, lines 48 – 56 of Yunoki. Unlike Applicants' invention, Yunoki fails to specifically teach Applicants' claimed steps d) detecting the pulse sequence only when the information has not been registered, e) selectively controlling a rotation of the disk recording medium so that the pulse sequence and said information match, wherein the pulse sequence obtained from the pulse data corresponds to a rotational speed of said disk recording medium, f) determining whether the pulse sequence and the information match, g) registering the information in the reproduction device only when the pulse sequence and said information have matched, and h) deleting the pulse data on the disk recording medium when the information has been registered.

The Examiner suggests that Yunoki discloses reading of data at various rotational speeds according to data type (see, e.g., column 8, lines 21 – 26 of Yunoki). Applicants respectfully disagree. At column 8, lines 21 – 26, Yunoki discloses that disk rotation is synchronized with an input signal obtained from the recording medium. Yunoki teaches that:

> vertical sync signal VS is extracted from the video signal SA supplied to the vertical sync separator 12, and is supplied to a motor servo circuit 14. The motor servo circuit 14 performs speed-servo control of a drive motor 15 in response to an FG pulse as a rotational speed signal from the disk drive motor 15 so as to keep it at a constant speed of 3,600 RPM.
>
> (Emphasis added)

Thus, unlike Applicants' claimed invention, Yunoki fails to teach or suggest that rotational speed be selectively controlled in order to match pulse information played back at the selected speed with verification information.

The Examiner acknowledges that Yunoki fails to disclosure determining whether information has been registered in an installation unit in order to delete the pulse data once the information has been registered. The Examiner notes that Ishizawa discloses a data reproduction management system that directs information playback according to a registration class (see, e.g., paragraphs 0013 – 0015 of Ishizawa).

Ishizawa discloses a copyright management system for a recording medium that registers ID information including a limit on the number of authorized reproductions (see, e.g., abstract of Ishizawa). However, as described by Ishizawa at paragraphs 0013 – 0015, and in distinction to Applicants' claimed invention, Ishizawa appears to teach registration of a playback device on the recording medium, while Applicants teach registration of the recording medium on the playback device. Moreover, the combination of Yunoki and Ishizawa fail to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed steps for detecting the pulse sequence only when the information has not been registered, selectively controlling a rotation of the disk recording medium so that the pulse sequence and said information match, registering the information in the reproduction device only when the pulse sequence and said information have matched, and deleting the pulse data on the disk recording medium when the information has been registered.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants invention as described in independent claims 18, 30 and 34 is not made obvious by the combination of Yunoki and Ishizawa, and that claims 18, 30 and 34 are therefore allowable. As claims

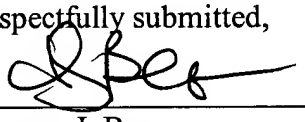
20, 21, 23 – 29, 32, 33, 36 and 37 each depend from one of allowable claims 18, 30 and 34, Applicants further submit that claims 20, 21, 23 – 29, 32, 33, 36 and 37 are also allowable for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Applicants respectfully request that all fees relating to this application be charged to Deposit Acct. No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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